

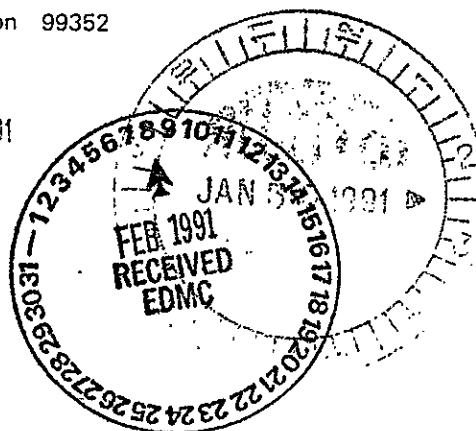
Department of Energy

Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352



91-ERB-022

JAN 28 1991



Mr. Timothy L. Nord
Hanford Project Manager
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
Mail Stop PV-11
Olympia, Washington 98504-8711

Dear Mr. Nord:

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY (ECOLOGY) COMMENTS ON THE
PRELIMINARY PROPOSALS FOR EXPEDITED RESPONSE ACTIONS (ERAs)

Your December 12, 1990, letter to me on "Hanford Interim Response Action Preliminary Proposals," provided a number of general and specific comments from Ecology on the proposed ERAs. Many of these comments were discussed in the December 14, 1990, meeting and subsequent interface meetings held on this subject. This letter provides a written response to the three general comments. The specific comments will be considered in the development of the formal ERA proposals.

The first general comment dealt with the issue of selecting and evaluating these and other sites for expedited response. The U. S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL) is taking the following actions to address these concerns:

1. A document establishing a consistent methodology for selecting, evaluating, and prioritizing sites for ERAs is being prepared. This document will be available for Ecology review in February. Previous input provided by Ecology will be utilized in the development of this methodology.
2. "Fact sheets" were prepared by Westinghouse Hanford Company's Public Affairs describing the projects which are underway, including details on why they were selected and the benefit of the action. In addition, these fact sheets discuss the development of the document described in item 1 above and list other sites under consideration for expedited response.
3. A listing of sites under consideration for ERAs will be prepared. The listing will indicate the projects status (i.e. in process, approved, deferred, rejected, or completed). This listing will include those sites which were not initially selected by the DOE-RL and any additional sites recommended by Ecology or the EPA for consideration. Preliminary planning packages will be prepared for the new sites in the list in accordance with the methodology developed in item 1 above.

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Mr. Timothy L. Nord

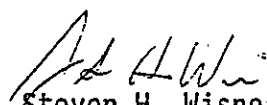
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The second general comment stated ERA proposals should address how other Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri-Party Agreement) schedules/milestones will potentially be affected. This information will be included in the ERA proposals and associated action memorandums. It is envisioned that ERAs being conducted will take advantage of information being gathered as part of the Operable Unit (OU) investigations. Also, the ERAs will provide additional information for use in conducting the OU investigations. These activities may require slight modifications to the OU schedules. The modifications will be discussed in the Unit Managers Meetings. The ERAs currently proposed will not impact any milestones. In response to the comment that project manager concurrence is required, the joint U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/Ecology letters providing approval to proceed on these projects satisfies this requirement.

The final general comment concerned the review cycle for the ERA proposals. The schedules will be modified to show public review after regulator review and comment incorporation. However, based on previous agreements for OU work plans, DOE-RL, EPA, and Ecology will review the document in parallel. It is anticipated that only minor comments and changes in scope will occur at this point due to the establishment of close working relationships between the three parties and their contractors on these projects.

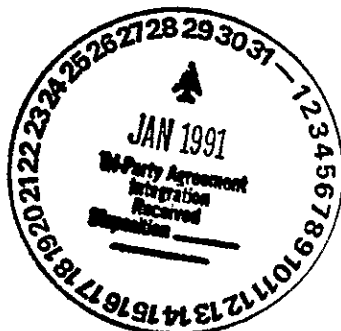
If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Julie Erickson on 376-3603 or Mr. Robert Stewart on 376-6192.

Sincerely,


Steven H. Wisness
Hanford Project Manager

ERD:JKE

cc: P. T. Day, EPA
R. E. Lerch, WHC

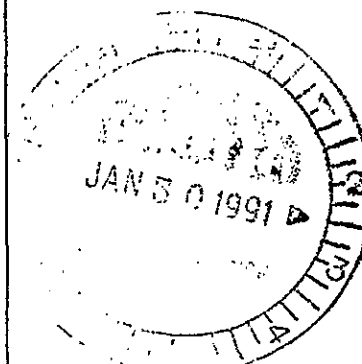



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Subject State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) Comments on the Preliminary Proposals for Expedited Response Actions (ERAs)		

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